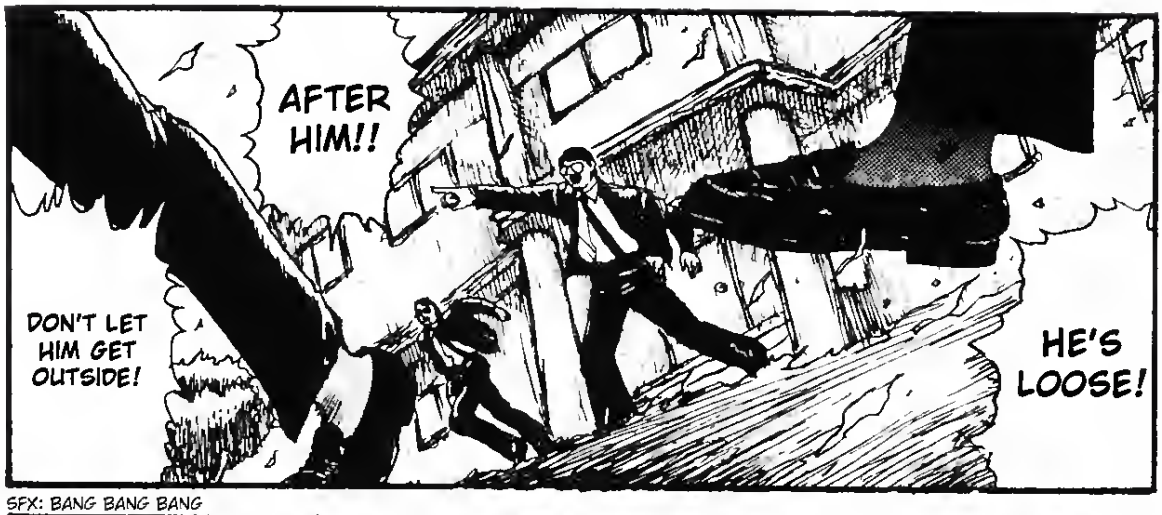


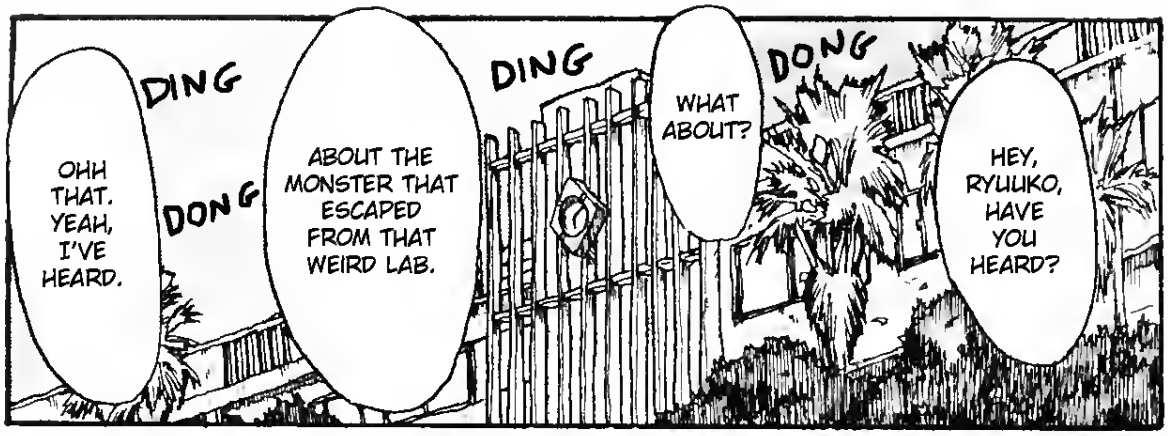
SFX: BANG BANG BANG

SFX: CLICK CLICK

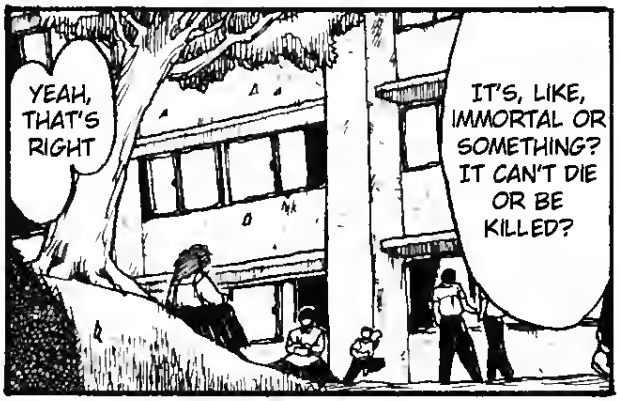
Winner of the 32nd Akatsuka Award

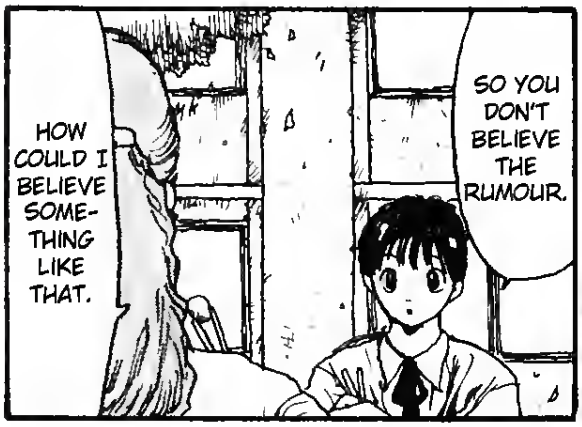
アンデッドマン UNDEAD MAN

Story, art
Norihiro Yagi
Raws
Gene
Translation
Utsune
Proofreading, redrawing, typesetting
Number A

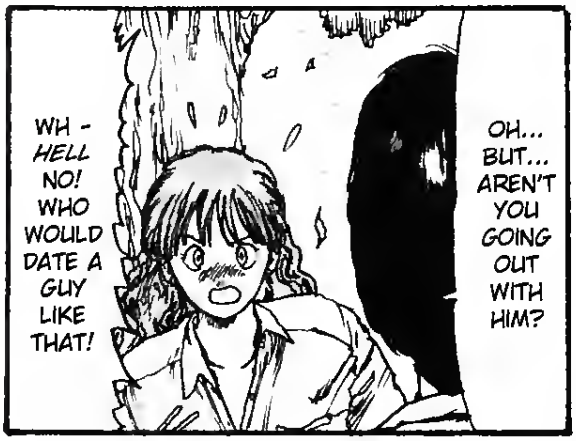

HEY, RYUUKO, HAVE YOU HEARD?
DONG
WHAT ABOUT?
DING
ABOUT THE MONSTER THAT ESCAPED FROM THAT WEIRD LAB.
DONG
OHH THAT. YEAH, I'VE HEARD.
DING

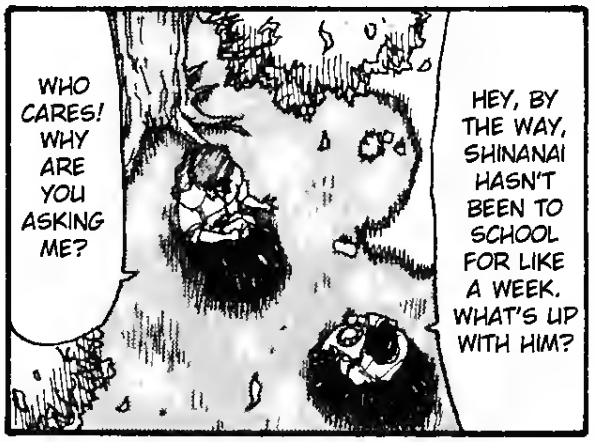
RUMOUR HAS IT THAT IT EATS HUMAN BRAINS.

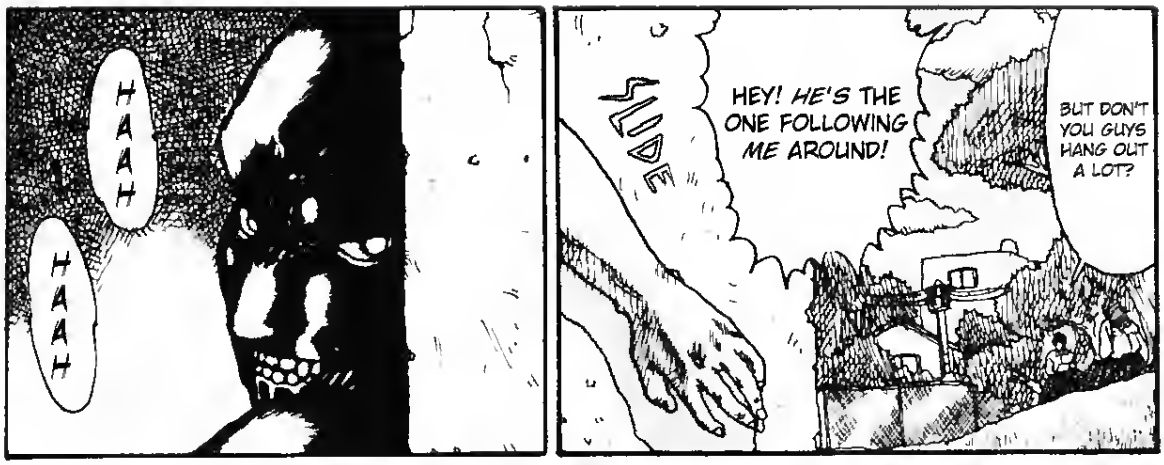

IT'S, LIKE, IMMORTAL OR SOMETHING? IT CAN'T DIE OR BE KILLED?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT


SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE THE RUMOUR.
HOW COULD I BELIEVE SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

ISN'T THAT JUST CRAP THE BOYS MADE UP?
LAME


OH... BUT... AREN'T YOU GOING OUT WITH HIM?
WH - HELL NO! WHO WOULD DATE A GUY LIKE THAT!


HEY, BY THE WAY, SHINANAI HASN'T BEEN TO SCHOOL FOR LIKE A WEEK. WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?
WHO CARES! WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?


HAAH
HAAH
SLIDE
HEY! HE'S THE ONE FOLLOWING ME AROUND!
BUT DON'T YOU GUYS HANG OUT A LOT?

TELL THE TRUTH RYUUKO~!
THIS AGAIN ...
Wink
THAT'S NON-SENSE.
DON'T BE SILLY,
BUT THERE'S ANOTHER RUMOUR THAT YOU MADE A BENTOU FOR HIM.

SFX APPEARS

URAGH
EEH ?!!
turn
AAAAAH! RYUUKO!
!!
YOU'RE BEING RIDICULOUS, THERE'S NO WAY I'D DO THAT.

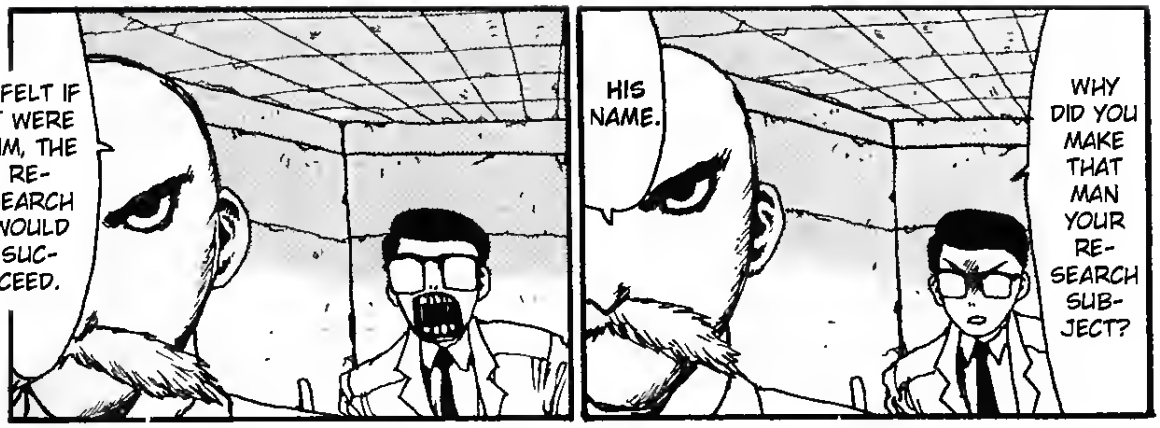
SFX: MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
.....
.....
.....
WHA ...?
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
GRIN
AHHH, I'VE MISSED THAT TASTE. I JUST KNEW YOU'D MAKE THE BEST BENTO!
clunk
PHEW
SFX: WHOOSH
SHINANAI ... I WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED
LOOK CLOSELY! I'M BALD NOW, I KNOW, BUT IT'S STILL MY FACE, RIGHT?
HEY! THAT WAS MY LUNCH, ASS-HOLE!
WAAA! WAIT! IT'S ME! SHI-NANAI!

SFX. WHOOSH
WAAA! WAIT! WAIT!
YOU LOOK NOTHING LIKE HIM!
HMM ... MMM ...
BLUR
STOMP
WHO WOULD LOVE YOU!
SURELY YOU CAN MAKE OUT THE VOICE OF THE MAN YOU LOVE!
LISTEN TO ME! TRY TO REMEMBER! MY VOICE HASN'T CHANGED, HAS IT?
HMM ...
EPIC PLASTIC SURGERY FAIL?
SIT
SO, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE?
HMM ...
YEAH ...
HEY, RYUUKO, LOOK AT HOW HE SPEAKS AND ACTS. ISN'T HE JUST LIKE SHINANAI?
PULL THESE OUT FOR ME, WILL YOU?
Turns
They've been hurting for awhile now
IN ANY CASE ...
IT'S A LONG STORY...

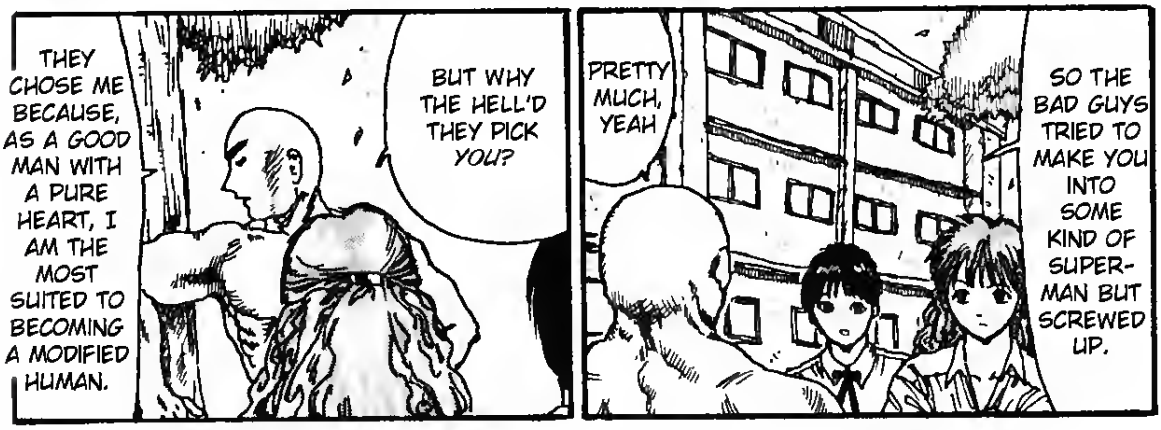
KYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!
H-HE BLENDED INTO THE CROWD ...
Y-YES ...
HE GOT AWAY...
SO...
SFX: THWOCK
HE ISN'T A NORMAL HUMAN!!
YOU THINK YOU COULD COME BACK JUST LIKE THAT AFTER LETTING HIM ESCAPE?!
YOU FOOL !!
OW OW OW
NOT... NOT A NORMAL HUMAN? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...

SFX. KATHUMP
PRO-FES-SOR, PLEASE DON'T SCOLD ME SO MUCH ...
FOOL! A LOWLY ASSISTANT LIKE YOU DARES TO PRY INTO MY ULTRA-SECRET RESEARCH! HOW PRE-SUMPTUOUS!
TRASH!!
WHATEVER ... I SUPPOSE THIS IS A CHANCE TO TELL YOU ...
NOT THAT !!!
"THE GREAT INQUIRY INTO SHAMELESS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WHO TURN SCAN-DALOUS DUE TO LEWD-NESS" HAS FINALLY PRODUCED RESULTS?!
AH! COULD IT BE?!
INDEED.
THAT MAN IS THE FRUIT OF MANY LONG YEAR S OF RE-SEAR CH.
GURK
THE RESEARCH INTO THE IMMORTAL ONES, THE UNDEAD.
YOU MEAN ...
I SPEAK OF THE WORK THAT BRINGS A RAY OF HOPE TO THE ELDERLY MAN THAT I AM.
THE UN-DEAD !!!!
WHA !?

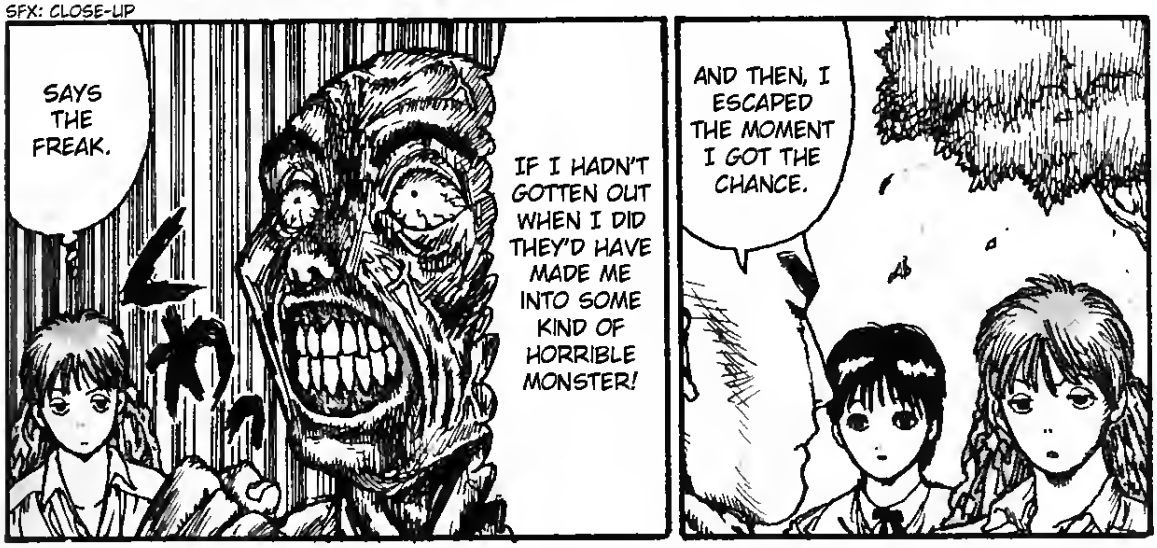
IMBECILE!! DO YOU NOT LISTEN WHEN PEOPLE SPEAK TO YOU?!
SO, UHM, WHAT EXACTLY IS HE?
HO, HO, HO! YES, YAMAGUCHI, YES HE IS.
IF THAT WORK HAS SUCCEEDED THEN IS THAT MAN...!?
THE "UNDEADMAN"!!
THAT MAN IS THE IMMORTAL PRODUCT OF MY WORK!
FINALLY YOU UNDERSTAND, YAMAGUCHI-KUN.
I SEE... I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN NOW.
CORRECT!! THAT'S EXACTLY RIGHT!! THAT'S WHY THERE WILL BE TROUBLE IF WE LET HIM ROAM FREE!!
HE'S THE "UNDEADMAN"?!
WHAT?
BUT, CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?


I FELT IF IT WERE HIM, THE RE-SEARCH WOULD SUC-CEED.
HIS NAME.
WHY DID YOU MAKE THAT MAN YOUR RE-SEARCH SUB-JECT?

rustle
OH ...

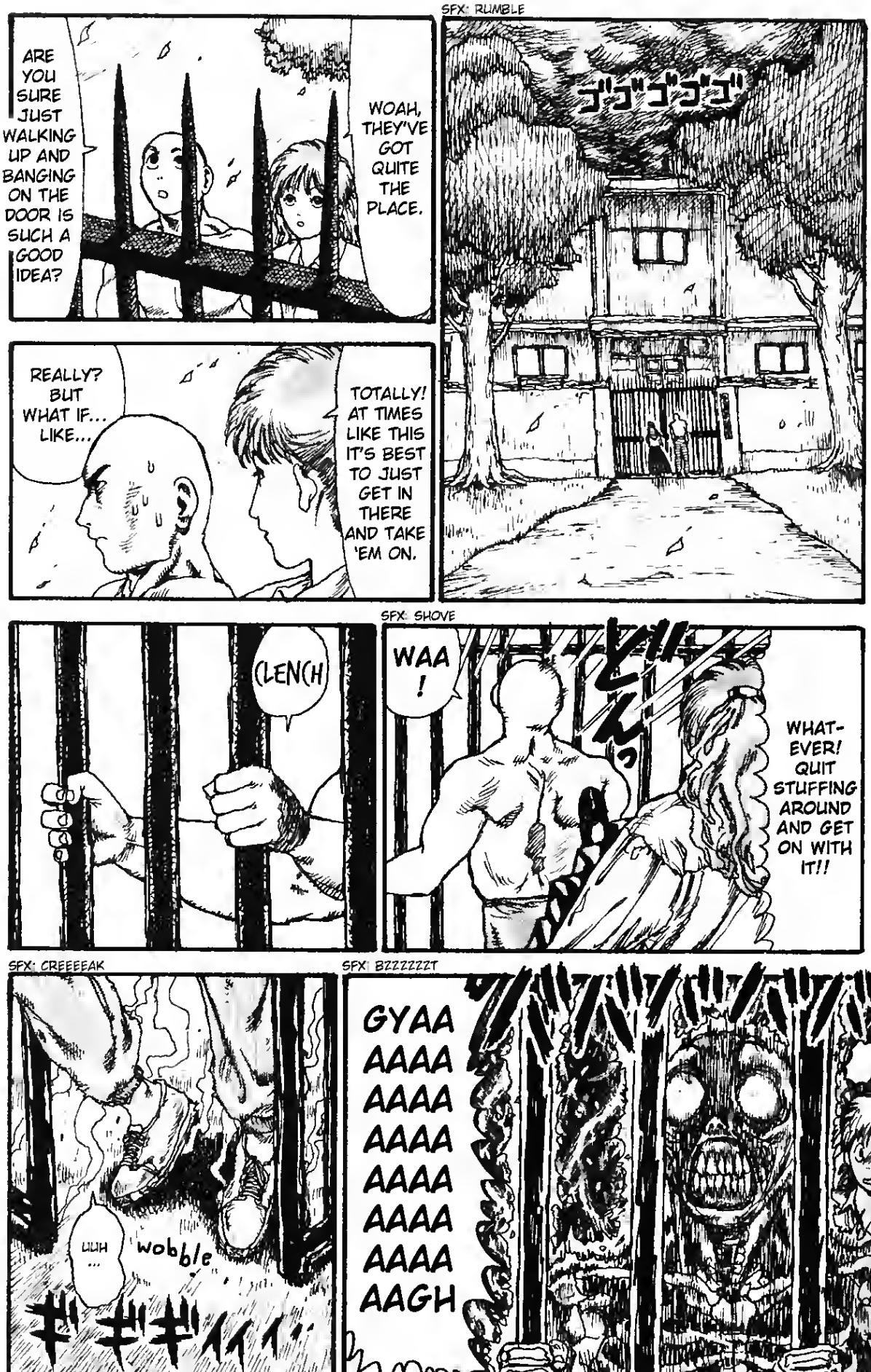

THEY CHOSE ME BECAUSE, AS A GOOD MAN WITH A PURE HEART, I AM THE MOST SUITED TO BECOMING A MODIFIED HUMAN.
BUT WHY THE HELL'D THEY PICK YOU?
PRETTY MUCH, YEAH
SO THE BAD GUYS TRIED TO MAKE YOU INTO SOME KIND OF SUPER-MAN BUT SCREWED UP.

SFX: CLOSE-UP


SAYS THE FREAK.
IF I HADN'T GOTTEN OUT WHEN I DID THEY'D HAVE MADE ME INTO SOME KIND OF HORRIBLE MONSTER!
AND THEN, I ESCAPED THE MOMENT I GOT THE CHANCE.

HUNH ?
DON'T "HUNH" ME, TELL ME YOU'RE NOT GONNA STAY LIKE THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
SO, NOW THAT YOU'RE ALL FUCKED UP,
stand
IT'S GROSS.
HELL YES.
DO YOU REALLY THINK I LOOK THAT WEIRD?
NOT LOOKING LIKE THAT YOU WON'T!
RYUUKO, FOR YOU I WILL ENDURE ANYTHING, I WILL STAY BY YOUR SIDE 'TILL DEATH DO US PART.
GET OUT OF MY FACE, FREAK!!
pop
GAAAH! RYUUKO! WHAT SHOULD I DOOOO?!
WHA
...
...

YOU'VE GOT GO BACK AND CONFRONT THE JERKS THAT DID THIS TO YOU.
THE SOURCE !?
YOU'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO THE SOURCE.
LOOK: IF YOU WANT TO SETTLE THIS,
AHH ... GOD HE'S HOPE-LESS.
AREN'T YOU, LIKE, IMMOR-TAL?
NO! HELL, NO! I'M NEVER GOING BACK EVEN IF IT KILLS ME!
YOUR FACE IS SCARIER.
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT! GET-TING OUT OF THAT SCARY PLACE WAS SO HARD NO WAY AM I GOING BACK THERE!!
YYUP.
twirl
YOU WILL ?
!
TWITCH
I'LL GO WITH YOU.
SFX. THUMP
YOUR LOVE SHALL BE MY COURAGE !!
THEN LET US GO, RYUUKO!


ARE YOU SURE JUST WALKING UP AND BANGING ON THE DOOR IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA?
WOAH, THEY'VE GOT QUITE THE PLACE.
SFX: RUMBLE
ゴゴゴゴゴ
REALLY? BUT WHAT IF... LIKE...
TOTALLY! AT TIMES LIKE THIS IT'S BEST TO JUST GET IN THERE AND TAKE 'EM ON.
CLENCH
SFX: SHOVE
WAA !
WHAT-EVER! QUIT STUFFING AROUND AND GET ON WITH IT!!
SFX: CREEEEAK
UUH ...
wobble
ギギギイイイ
SFX: BZZZZZZT
GYAA AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA AAGH

SFX: CRUSH
AAH ...
SFX: THUD
!!
HOLY SHIT!!
SFX: WOOF WOOF WOOF
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
I TRIED TO TELL YOU BEFORE: CHARGING IN ISN'T GONNA WORK.
DON'T GIVE UP SO EASILY!
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER SHINANAI!
YOUR FACE ...
IT'S FINE, IT'LL HEAL.
fix
fix
A-ARE YOU OK?
GAA AAAA AH!!
rise
OWWWWW THAT SMARTS.

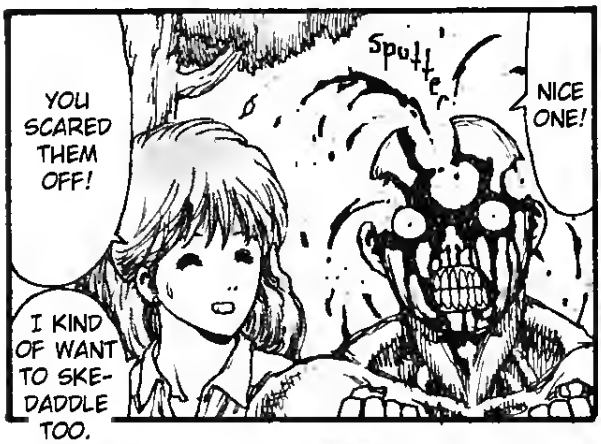
STOP! THAT HURTS!
KYA AAA AAA AAA AAH
SEE?
SHOW
IN-TRUDER ALERT !!
stomp stomp stomp
SOME-THING'S CAUGHT IN THE TRAP!
!
SFX: PULLS CLOSE
NO FUCKING WAY!
KISS ME! THEY'LL THINK WERE A COUPLE AND LEAVE US ALONE!
LEAVE IT TO ME RYUUKO! I HAVE A PLAN!
SHIT! THEY'RE GONNA FIND US! ANY IDEAS?!
WHAT SAD LOSER DISTURBS THE EMBRACE OF TWO YOUNG LOVERS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
WHO ARE YOU!?

NO SHIT! SINCE WHEN HAVE PEOPLE BROKEN INTO HOUSES TO MAKE OUT!!
DAMMIT! OPERATION TENDER MOMENT FAILED!!
SFX: CLICK CLICK
ジャキ
ジャキ
GOD, SHINANAI, DON'T LOSE YOUR SHIT SO EASILY!
OH ... YEAH ...
SO?! YOU'RE IMMORTAL, DUMBASS!
OH MY GOD RYUUKO THEY'VE GOT GUNS!
SFX: FORCE
YOU'RE GOING DOWN, PUNKS!!
GO GET 'EM TIGER!
THESE LOSERS CAN'T STOP YOU!
SHINANAI!!
SHOW THEM YOUR POWER!
GUNS? WHAT ARE GUNS TO A MAN WHO DOES NOT DIE!

YOUR PUNY GUNS CAN'T TOUCH THIS!
HE HE HE, TAKE NOTE, RETARDS!
SFX: BANG BANG
OH GOD, I WISH I WAS DEAD!
SURE YOU DO, CAN YOU BACK OFF A LITTLE?
Spurt
THINKING ABOUT IT, NOT HURTING ISN'T THE SAME AS NOT DYING.
RYUUUKO! IT HURTS SOOOOO BAAAAD!
SFX: CHARGE
HYAAAAAAAAAH!!
SHOVE
CHIT-CHAT WHEN YOU'RE DONE KICKING ASS.
YOU WANNA KILL ME? KILL ME!!
I'VE GOT NOTH-ING TO LOSE!

SFX: BANG BANG BANG
SHOW THEM WHAT IT MEANS TO BE IM-MOR-TAL!!
GO SHI-NA-NAI !!
SFX: SMACK SMACK
UUH
SFX: REPEL
YAAAAAAARGH!!
SPUT
UUUUGH
?
?

SFX: STOMP STOMP STOMP



SURGERY LIKE THAT WITHOUT CONSENT: OF COURSE HE'S MAD.
I GAVE HIM THE GIFT OF IMMORTALITY AND HE THROWS IT IN MY FACE! HOW IMPRUDENT!

IMMORTAL HE MAY BE BUT INVULNERABLE HE IS NOT.
RELAX, YAMA-GUCHI.
SFX: RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
がちゃ
がちゃ
がちゃ
BALLS! BE A MAN AND SMASH IT DOWN! SMASH IT!
SIEZE
NO WAY! I'VE LOST A LOT OF BLOOD, A BLOW LIKE THAT COULD KILL ME...
BODY SLAM IT OPEN.
IT'S LOCKED
EEH
SFX: BAM
ドカ
CHAAAARGE!!
GENDER MEANS NOTHING WHEN YOU'VE BLED OUT THIS MUCH...

SFX: CLATTER
ガちゃ
AHH ...
PITY... ME...
SHOULDER-CHARGING DIDN'T WORK? IT ALWAYS DOES ON TV...
rattle rattle
(REAK
IT'S NOT ANAEMIA, IT'S BLOOD LOSS
YOU KNOW, IMMORTALS DON'T DIE OF ANAEMIA.
WHATEVER. THE POINT IS IT WON'T KILL YOU.
OPEN
AHA HA-HA
MY BAD! IT OPENS THE OTHER WAY.
HO! HO! HO!
AAAAH
WE'RE ALWAYS UP FOR A FIGHT!
spin
WHAT? YOU WANT SOME MORE OF THIS?
!
APPEAR
!
I'M NOT YOUR FOE. I AM YOUR CREATOR.

SUCH DEGEN-ERATE MORALS!
YOU SPEAK SO RUDELY TO THE FATHER OF YOUR REBIRTH!
YOU!? YOU'RE THE MAD SCIENTIST MOTHER-FUCKER WHO MESSED UP SHINANAI!?
TURN ME BACK!
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE...
YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAN, DUMBASS?
... ...
... ...
This blood loss is gonna kill me
G... EH... UHM...
DON'T WASTE TIME TALKING! THOSE DIPSHITS KNOW HOW TO TURN YOU BACK, BEAT IT OUT OF THEM!
SFX: INTIMIDATE
SFX. KICK
WAA!
KICK
WHAT-EVER! SHUT UP AND FIGHT!
AAH!
HIT
HUNH?

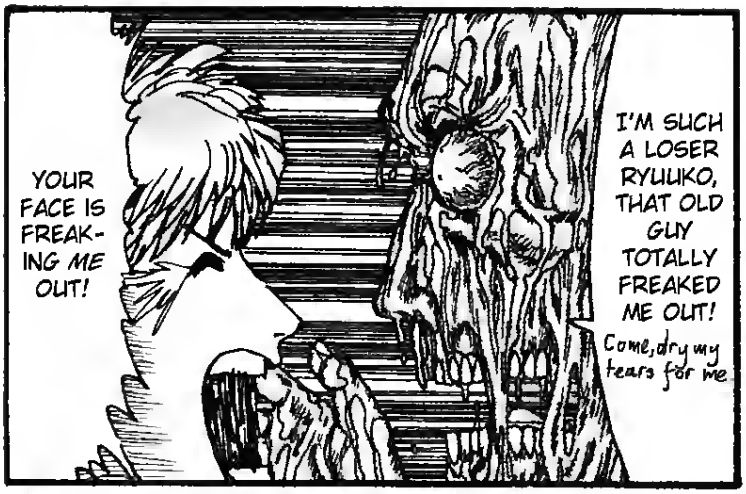
SFX: THWACK
SFX: SWING
SFX: SMASH
WHERE IS YOUR HUMANITY?
WHOOSH
WOOOSH
WOOOSH
BA-BASTARD! HOW CAN YOU LAY HANDS ON A DYING MAN!?
SFX: STOMP WHACK CRUSH
EEH?!
AND WHAT ABOUT MY BLACK EYE!!
I'M BLEEDING OUT HERE! WHERE IS YOUR COMPASSION?
SFX: STOMP
OOW!!

SFX: STOMP STOMP STOMP
RYUUKOOO!!
SFX: THUD WHACK
WHO THE *FUCK* TREATS A DYING MAN LIKE THAT?!
.....
.....
HEY! LAY OFF!
SFX: BOOM
SFX: CLANG
STOP IT!!
SFX: THUD
!
roll
roll
SHI-NA-NAI!!

DYING WOULD BE EASIER THAN LIVING LIKE THIS...
HEY ... ARE YOU OK?
OH GOD, IT HURTS LIKE I'M DYING!
MUAHAHAHAHA! EVEN YOU, IMMORTAL THOUGH YOU ARE, ARE POWERLESS WHEN BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS!
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY THE PROBLEM HERE...
REAL MEN WOULD FIGHT US WITH THEIR FISTS!
WHAT KIND OF SICK BASTARDS SHOOT A GUY WITH BAZOOKAS?
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'RESEARCH'?
SHOCK
CARE TO ASSIST ME WITH MY RESEARCH?
GRIN
NOW, YOUNG LADY, YOU'RE QUITE THE LITTLE CUTIE, AREN'T YOU?
AS IF! BACK OFF, PERVERT!!
DON'T FRET DEARIE, YOU'LL DO JUST FINE. SIMPLY CALM DOWN AND LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME.
FAAAAAAAAH!!
WELL THAT WAS TO BE EXPECTED.
TA DA
tra la la ~y
I, DR. STEIN, AM CONDUCTING "THE GREAT INQUIRY INTO SHAMELESS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WHO TURN SCANDALOUS DUE TO LEWDNESS"

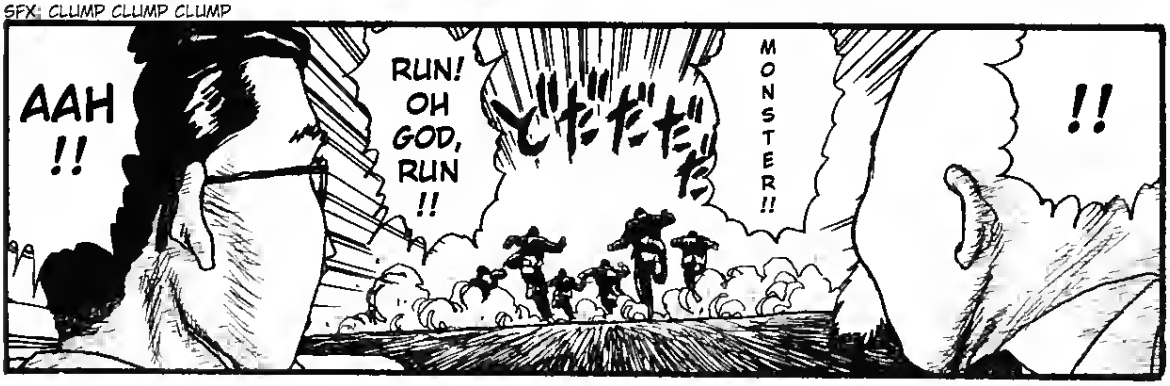
WHAT CAN I DO?
HEY SHI-NANAI! QUIT SPACING OUT AND GET THIS CREEP OFF ME!
LIKE HELL YOU DO!
NOT AT ALL MY DEAR, I ASSURE YOU I POS-SESS THE PUREST, MOST SCIEN-TIFIC OF INTEN-TIONS.
YOU SAY THAT SO EASILY...
DO SOME-THING SHI-NANAI! A HEAD CAN STILL DO SHIT! BE A MAN, GOD-DAMIT!
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE BEING REA-SON-ABLE!
COME NOW, A PROPER YOUNG LADY WOULD NOT BE SO UN-ACCO-MODAT-ING.
DON'T YOU CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR WOMAN ?!
SHI-NA-NAI YOU BAS-TARD !!
SFX: SHINE
MY WOMAN !!!!
WAAH !!
hoist
YOU LIS-TEN-ING? BRING HER TO MY LAB!
EEH ?!

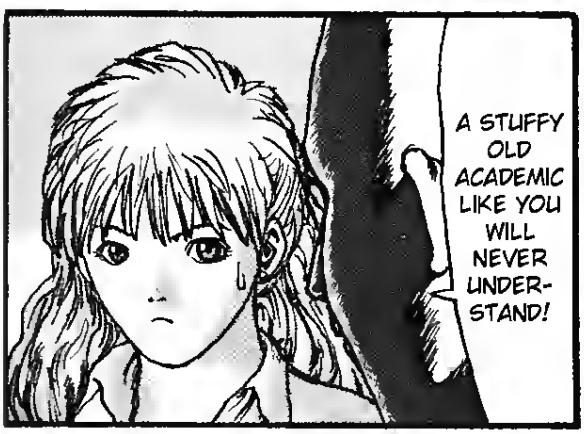
SFX: SHINING
SFX: LIGHTING UP
TURN
WHA... WHAT'S HAP-PEN-ING?!
!!!
SFX: CRUNCH CRUNCH
SFX: WHOOSH
SFX: APPEAR
RYU-UKO !! I'M COM-ING TO SAVE YOU
SFX: CRUNCH CRUNCH
SFX: FIERY ROAR

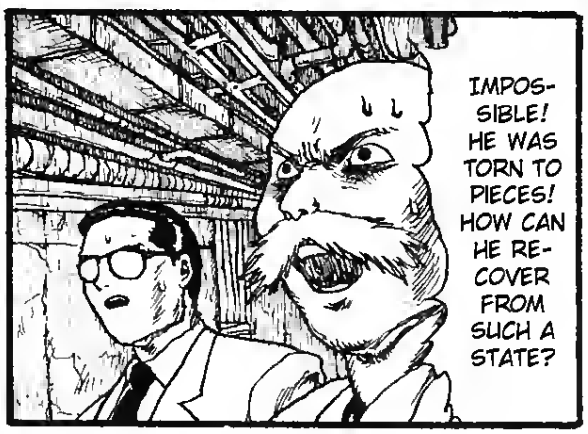


SFX: CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER

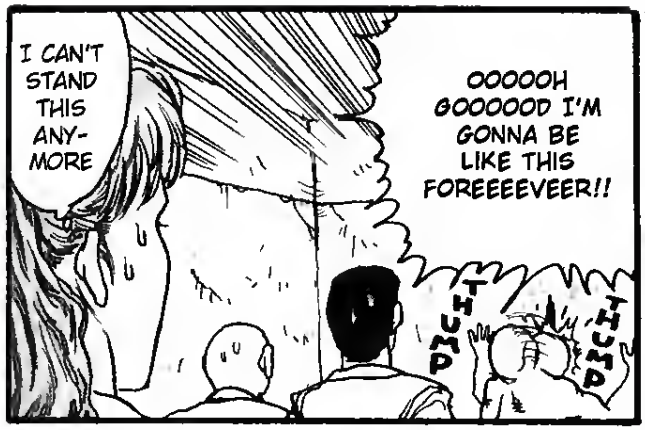
SFX: CLUMP CLUMP CLUMP

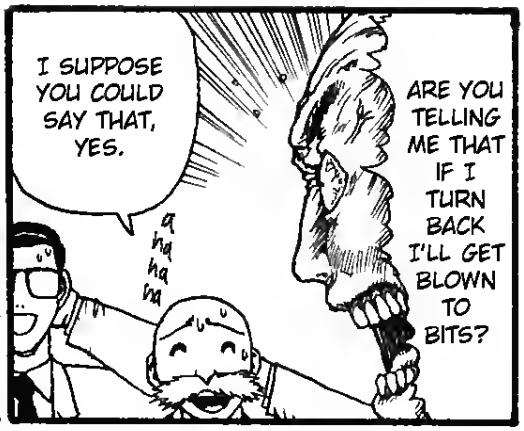


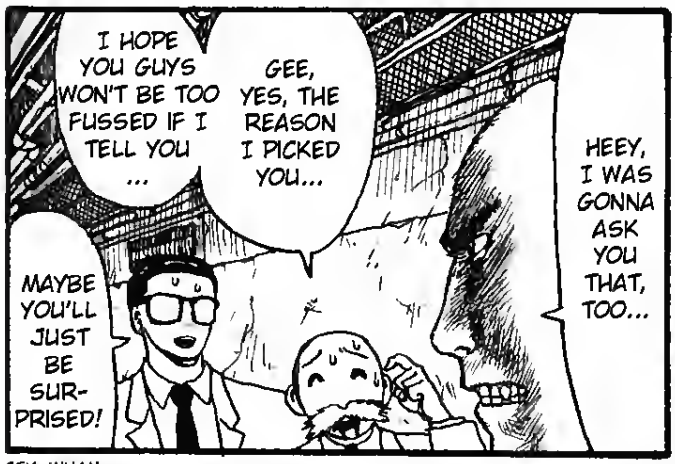


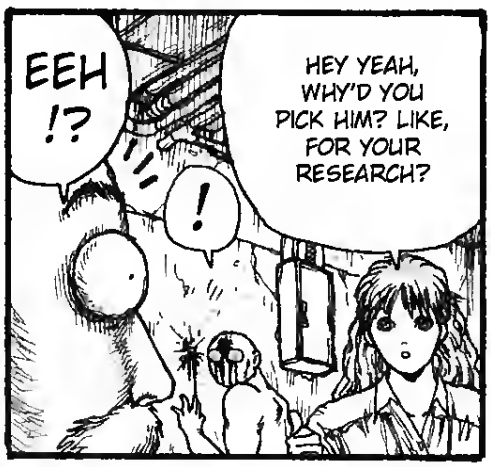


I UNDERSTAND
IS... IS THAT SO...
THE BOND WE SHARE MAKES THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!
THIS IS THE POWER OF LOVE!!
NO ONE ELSE UNDERSTANDS WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, SIR.
AN INCREASED RATE OF RELEASE OF EPINEPHRINE HAS COMPOUNDED THE EFFECTS OF NEURAL OSCILLATIONS TO INDUCE AN ABRUPT MUTATION OF THE DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID HELIX WHICH HAS IN TURN PRECIPITATED THE ACCELERATION OF MITOSIS AND THUS PRODUCED ABNORMAL REGENERATION!!
RE... RESTORING YOU TO YOUR PREVIOUS PHYSICAL STATE IS POSSIBLE, YES, BUT DOING SO WOULD INDUCE SPONTANEOUS REPERCUSSION.
GLARE
ACCEPT DEFEAT AND TURN ME BACK TO NORMAL.
Stride
stride
stride
DOCTOR! YOUR MINIONS HAVE FLED, YOU CANNOT WIN.
... ...
ALL THE DAMAGE I'VE TAKEN SINCE I BECAME IMMORTAL...
TO PUT IT PLAINLY, ALL THE DAMAGE YOU'VE TAKEN SINCE YOU BECAME IMMORTAL WILL HIT YOU AT ONCE.
SPONTANEOUS REPERCUSSION!?

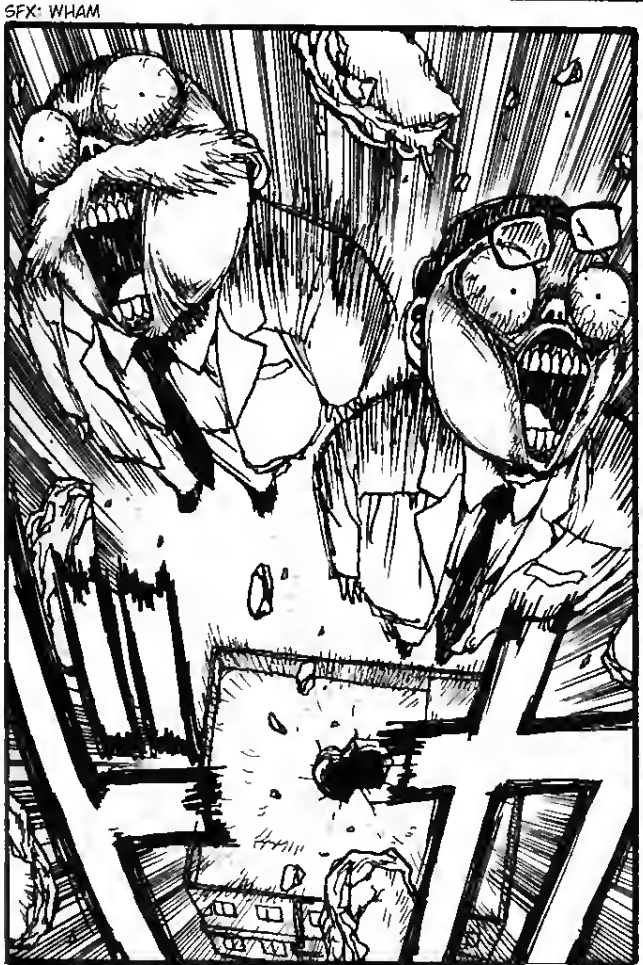

I CAN'T STAND THIS ANY-MORE
OOOOOH GOOOOOD I'M GONNA BE LIKE THIS FOREEEEVEER!!
THUMP
THUMP


I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY THAT, YES.
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT IF I TURN BACK I'LL GET BLOWN TO BITS?
a ha ha ha

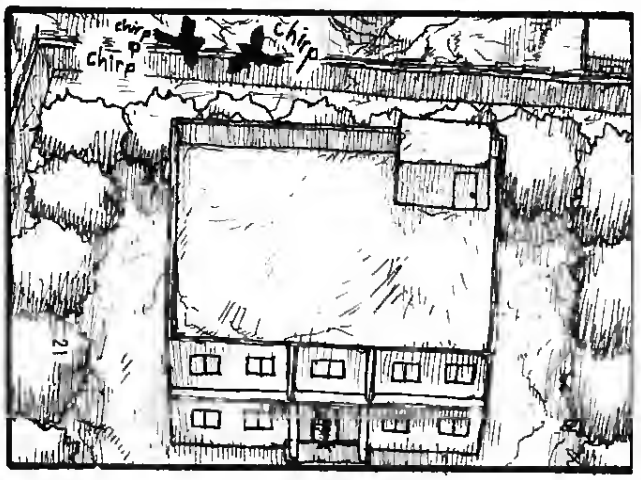

I HOPE YOU GUYS WON'T BE TOO FUSSED IF I TELL YOU ...
GEE, YES, THE REASON I PICKED YOU...
HEEY, I WAS GONNA ASK YOU THAT, TOO...
MAYBE YOU'LL JUST BE SUR-PRISED!


EEH !?
!
HEY YEAH, WHY'D YOU PICK HIM? LIKE, FOR YOUR RESEARCH?

SFX: WHAM



THE TRUTH IS...
IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL, REALLY...


chirp
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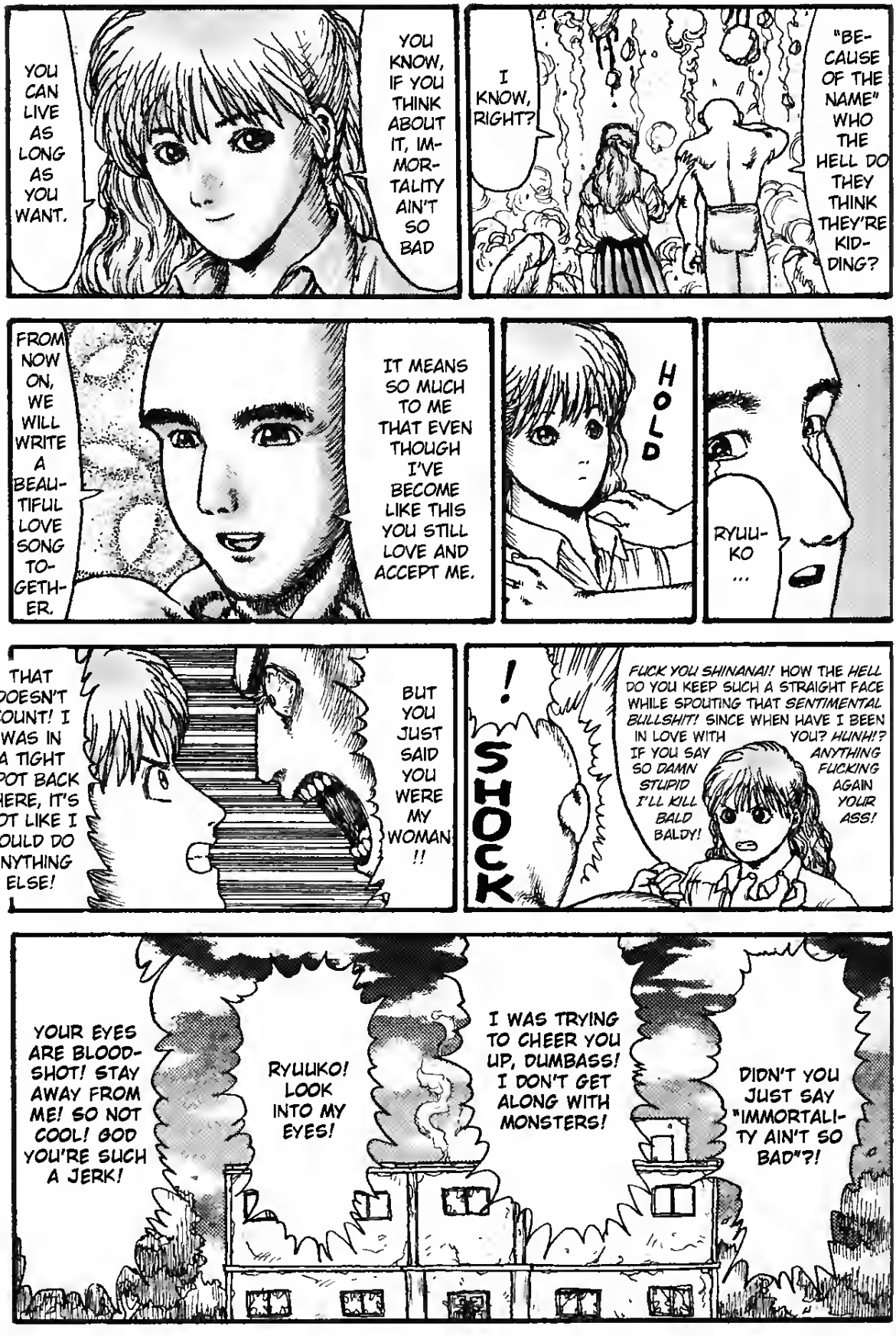
21


YOU CAN LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT.
YOU KNOW, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IMMORTALITY AIN'T SO BAD
I KNOW, RIGHT?
"BECAUSE OF THE NAME" WHO THE HELL DO THEY THINK THEY'RE KIDDING?
FROM NOW ON, WE WILL WRITE A BEAUTIFUL LOVE SONG TOGETHER.
IT MEANS SO MUCH TO ME THAT EVEN THOUGH I'VE BECOME LIKE THIS YOU STILL LOVE AND ACCEPT ME.
HOLD
RYUU-KO ...
THAT DOESN'T COUNT! I WAS IN A TIGHT SPOT BACK THERE, IT'S NOT LIKE I COULD DO ANYTHING ELSE!
BUT YOU JUST SAID YOU WERE MY WOMAN !!
! SHOCK
FUCK YOU SHINANAI! HOW THE HELL DO YOU KEEP SUCH A STRAIGHT FACE WHILE SPOUTING THAT SENTIMENTAL BULLSHIT! SINCE WHEN HAVE I BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU? HUNH!? IF YOU SAY ANYTHING SO DAMN FUCKING STUPID AGAIN I'LL KILL YOUR BALD ASS! BALDY!
YOUR EYES ARE BLOODSHOT! STAY AWAY FROM ME! SO NOT COOL! GOD YOU'RE SUCH A JERK!
RYUUKO! LOOK INTO MY EYES!
I WAS TRYING TO CHEER YOU UP, DUMBASS! I DON'T GET ALONG WITH MONSTERS!
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY "IMMORTALITY AIN'T SO BAD"?!